

Remarks

Claim 15 is canceled herein. Claims 1, 3, 7, 9-10, and 11 are amended herein. New claims 16-18 are added.

The claims are amended herein to parallel claims allowed in parent U.S. Patent Application No. 08/484,791, which has now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,380,157.

Support for the amendment of claim 1 and new claims 16-18 can be found throughout the specification, specifically on pages 6-15. Examples 1 and 2 disclose L2 protein fragments of at least about 127 consecutive amino acids in length from the regions between and including amino acid residues 11-525.

Claim 3 is amended to refer to a sequence set forth in the sequence listing (SEQ ID NO: 2). Claims 7 and 9-11 are amended to correct form.

The specification is amended herein to reflect that U.S. Patent Application No. 08/484,791 has now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,380,157.

No new matter is added. Examination of the application is respectfully requested.

Restriction Requirement

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-11, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition, with traverse. Applicants submit that it would not be an undue burden on the Examiner to search the subject matter of Group II (drawn to a bacterial cell) with Group I.

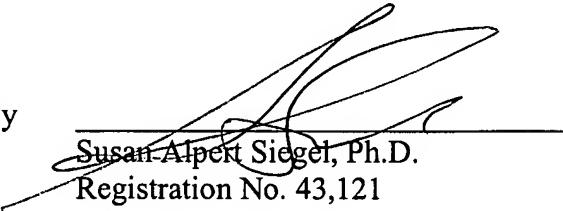
Conclusion

Examination of all of the pending claims is respectfully requested. Applicants reserve the right to petition the Commissioner to rejoin the claims. If any minor matters remain to be addressed prior to substantive examination, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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